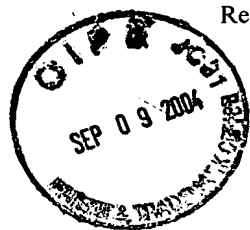


Appl. No.: 09/833540
Amdt. Dated: September 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: July 9, 2004

TJW

AF



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/833,540
Applicant : John T. Brown, et al.
Filed : 4/11/2001
Title : SUBSTANTIALLY DRY, SILICA-CONTAINING SOOT,
: FUSED SILICA AND OPTICAL FIBER SOOT PREFORMS,
: APPARATUS, METHODS AND BURNERS FOR
: MANUFACTURING SAME

TC/A.U. : 1731
Examiner : Carlos N. Lopez

Docket No. : SP00-130

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: 9/3/04

Randall S. Wayland
Randall S. Wayland

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of July 9, 2004, please amend the above-identified as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 33 of this paper.